

## Shipping

**STEAMERS.**

**STEAM TO STRAITS AND BOMBAY.**

(Calling at Colombo  
if sufficient inducement offers).  
**THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship**

"THIBET,"  
Captain L. M. Wibmer, R.N.R., will leave for the  
above place on SATURDAY, the 29th instant,  
at Noon.  
E. L. WOODIN,  
Superintendent.  
Hongkong, 18th August, 1891. [1120]

FOR SHANGHAI.  
THE Steamship  
"HLYE MOON"

Captain G. Heuermann, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 25th inst, at 4 P.M.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
**SIEMSEN & Co.**  
Hamburg and London.

“UNION” LINE OF STEAMERS.  
FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.  
THE Steamship

**"GUY MANNERING."**  
 Captain Ford, will be despatched as above  
 on or about the 28th inst.  
 For Freight or Passage, apply to  
**DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,**  
 Agents.  
 Hongkong, 21st August, 1861. 1111

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.  
THE Steamship

"MACDUFF,"  
 Captain Porter, will be despatched for the  
 above port on the 28th instant.  
 For Freight, apply to  
**DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,**  
 Agents.

Hongkong, 6th August 1896. 1896

---

FOR KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.  
THE Steamship  
"COLONIST."

Captain Chater, will be despatched as above  
on or about the 30th inst.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
**DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,**  
Agents.  
HONGKONG, and AMOY.

**EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED,**  
**FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE.**

(Calling at PORT DARWIN, and QUEENSLAND  
PORTS, and taking through Cargo to  
NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)  
**T**HE Steamship

**"MENMUIR,"**  
Captain Craig, will be despatched for the  
above Ports on **FRIDAY**, the 4th proximo, at  
4 p.m.  
This well-known steamer is specially fitted for

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
C. W. LUMPKINSON & CO.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, 19th August, 1891. (11127)

---

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,  
SINGAPORE.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND  
PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.  
THE Company's Steamship

**"TAIYUAN,"**  
R. Nelson, Commander, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 5th September.  
The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer.

First Class Saloon and Cabins are situated forward of the Engines. Second Class Passengers are Berthed in the Poop. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage. A full and complete

For Freight or Passage, apply to  
**BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,**  
Agents.

**Notices of Firms.**

**I HAVE** This Day commenced Business as  
**MERCHANT, GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,**  
 and **AUCTIONEER**, under the Style of **GORDON**

Hongkong, 21st Augur, 1891. [1897]

**NOTICE.**  
**M**R. HANS WILHELM HERMANN  
EHMER has this day been authorized  
to sign our Firm by procuration.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1891. MEYER & Co. [1114]

---

NOTICE.

**NOTICE** is hereby given that on the 7th instant, the Undersigned entered into Partnership as **SHARE and GENERAL BROKERS**, and intend to carry on business under the style of **DANBY & POTTS**.

All Forward Contracts made by the Partners previous to the 7th instant will be carried out by them individually, and independently of the said Firm.

S. I. DANBY.

G. H. POTTS.  
 Hongkong, 7th August, 1891. (1090)  


---

**NOTICE.**  


---

THE Undersigned have been appointed SOLE AGENTS for Hongkong and China for the KINNEY BROS. New York branch of the American Tobacco (Trust) Company's well-known brands of "SWEET CAPORAL."

STRAIGHT CUT," "FULL DRESS," &c.,  
 &c., CIGARETTES and TOBACCOS.  
 ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.  
 Hongkong, 17th July, 1891. [998]

**G. FALCONER & CO.,**  
WATCH and CHRONOMETER MANU-  
FACTURERS and JEWELLERS,  
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

CHARTS and BOOKS,  
No. 42, Queen's Road Central. (15)

1990

## Intimations.

**DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,**  
LIMITED.  
DISPENSING CHEMISTS, &c.  
LONDON, HONGKONG, AND AMOY.  
NATURAL APERIENT WATERS.

ON THE CHOICE OF A WATER.  
EXTRACT from the London Medical Record, May 20th, 1890, by GEO. HERSCHILL, M.D. (Lond.)

"In order to attain the highest success in the treatment of a case by a Natural Water, it is far better to study thoroughly one kind, and master its peculiarities, than to experiment with different sorts, each having a different dose and special attributes of its own."

"The advantages of one mineral water over another may be put under the following heads:—

- 1.—Smallness of dose.
- 2.—Absence of unpleasant effect.
- 3.—Solubility of Soda and Magnesia in nearly equal proportions.
- 4.—Absence of unpleasant taste.

On examining the chief waters on the English market with a view of making a selection, one is struck with the fact that a newly-imported water, the "Frans Josef," contains 190 and 178 grains to the pound of Sulphates of Magnesia and Soda respectively. This is much in excess of the quantities contained by either Hunyadi Janos, Friedrichshall, or Aachen. It is evidently the strongest water by far, whilst at the same time it fortunately happens to be almost tasteless.

Price, cents 50 per bottle; per dozen \$5.50.  
We are sole agents in China for the sale of FRANS JOSEF WATER.

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.



BY APPOINTMENT.

## WINES AND SPIRITS.

**A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.**  
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

## MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED WATERS.

Our New Factory has been recently refitted with automatic Steam Machinery of the latest and most approved kind, and we are well able to compete in quality with the best English Makers.

The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

## LARGE BOMBAY "SODAS"

We continue to supply large bottles as heretofore, of *Esprit Charles*, to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

COAST PORT ORDERS, whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.

FOR COAST PORTS, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Expenses when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is, "DISPENSARY, HONGKONG," And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:—

PURE AERATED WATERS  
SODA WATER  
LEMONADE  
POTASH WATER  
SALTZIER WATER  
LITHIA WATER  
SARSAPARILLA WATER  
TONIC WATER  
GINGER ALE  
GINGERADE.

No Credit given for bottles that look dirty, or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Water, as such bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,  
Hongkong, China, and Manila.

## For Sale.

## NOW READY.



"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" FOR 1891.

THIS Valuable Work, with many NEW ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS, IS NOW READY.

PRICE THREE DOLLARS.

Orders for Copies of "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY" may be sent to the following Agents:—

HONGKONG:—Mr. W. Brewer,  
Messrs. F. Blackhead & Co.,  
Messrs. Heurmann, Herbert & Co.,  
Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited,  
Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.,  
The Hongkong Trading Co., Ltd.,  
Man Yu Tong, Hongkong Road.  
MACAO:—Messrs. A. A. de Mello & Co.  
AMOI:—Mr. N. Moale.  
FOUCHON:—Mr. H. W. Churchill.  
SHANGHAI:—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited,  
& NORTH-  
KEM PORTS:—Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited,  
Yokohama.  
HONGKONG:—Rev. S. J. Smith.  
SINGAPORE:—Messrs. Sayle & Co., Limited.  
PARIS:—Messrs. Amélie Prince & Co.  
LONDON:—  
or to  
"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" Office,  
Foster's Hill,  
Hongkong, January 18th, 1891.

BIRTH.  
At "Melrose," The Peak, on the 24th instant, the wife of E. JONES HUGHES, of a daughter.

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 1891.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

OWING to extreme pressure on our news columns, special telegrams from the Palmerston (Port Darwin) Times, and our San Francisco exchanges are unavoidably held over.

We are informed by the Agent of the Messageries Maritimes that the Company's steamer *Sydney*, with the next French mail, left Saigon on Saturday at 3 p.m. for this port.

Mrs. Fax—You came home early last night, I notice.  
Mr. Fax—My dear, I assure you I didn't intend to.

A REGULAR meeting of Zealand Lodge, No. 525, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, on Tuesday, the 1st prox., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

THE Agents (Messrs. Carlowitz & Co.) inform us that the Navigazione Generale Italiana steamer *Bormida*, from Bombay, left Singapore for this port yesterday, and may be expected on or about the 30th inst.

A WOULD-BE sportsman was boasting so much about his achievements that at last one of his audience offered to bet a sovereign that he did not know the difference between a grouse and a grilse. "Done," said he; "a grouse is the male, and a grilse is the female."

THE Band of the A. & S. Highlanders will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess tomorrow, commencing at 8 p.m.:—

March—"Op' the Road" (Schubert).  
Valse—"Le Rendez-vous" (Liszt).  
Selection—"Rip van Winkle" (Plagnieu).  
Serenade—"Quand tu Chantes" (Gounod).  
Selection—"La Fille du Madone Angot" (Lecocq).

TEACHER—"You must not come to school any more, Tommy, until your mother has recovered from the prevailing Drift fever." Tommy—"There ain't a bit of danger. She ain't going to give me no fever." "Why, how is that?" She, his stepmother. She never gives me anything."

CAPTAIN—"My man, I wouldn't ship on this voyage if I were you."  
Sailor—"Why not? Ain't I all right?"  
Captain—"Yes, but you are too fat."

Sailor—"What if I am? I can handle a rope as well as a man."

Captain—"Yes, but we are bound for the Cannibal Islands."

A CORRESPONDENT writes to ask us why the clock at the Police Court has lost its face. To which inquisitive query we reply by asking—are we the keeper of the clock? Certainly not! but one reason for its losing face might be that it has had to face such an amount of unprecedented piffery and badly villainy in the sensational conspiracy case, that in despair it has closed its eyes for ever.

YOUNG Celestial bloods should remember that, when fortune does admit of their indulgence in a pony and trap, other people (strange as it may seem) also have a right to the roads. If Mr. To Kue had remembered this on Saturday night he would now be five dollars richer, to say nothing of the cost of the trap, and Mr. Wise would have been saved some trouble at the Magistracy this morning.

Why is it sermon, prayer, and song? Are investments bad in Hongkong? The soldier marches miles in drill! The sailor climbs the steepest hill! The broker's ever on the run! The banker nightly chases fun! No matter what their daily quest, They're all too tired to go Church! [Oh! yes! I have noticed this before.—Ed.]

FROM the record of the local police court it would seem that street gambling is on the increase at an unprecedented rate, owing to the extraordinary vigilance that the "coppers" now exercise over the sporting establishments frequented by these gentry. Upwards of two dozen characters coming under the above category were dealt with by Mr. Wise this morning and were fined according to their deserts. (Ab-ha?)

THE Eastern and Australian Co.'s steamship *Memmut*, Capt. Hugh Craig, from Sydney July 31st, via Moreton Bay, Townsville, Cooktown, Thursday Island, Port Essington, and Port Darwin, arrived in harbour at 8.30 this morning, having made the run from Darwin in a little over eight days—a capital performance at this season of the year. The steamer's report and passenger list will be found in our shipping column.

MR. A. K. TRAVERS, the Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong C. C., informs us that the following representatives of the local Club will probably leave for Shanghai, on or about the 10th September, to meet the doughty foes of the North, under the captaincy of the redoubtable Dunn—Capt. Dunn, L. Barr, Capt. Dumbleton, R.E., Major Hanney, D. Lawson, E. M. Lorlag, R.E., E. W. Matland, F. Matland, E. A. Ram, Two others, W. Newton (Score), E. C. H. Grant (Gist) umpire.

We note that Mr. Kenneth Stevens, secretary of the Balmoral Mining Co., Ltd., who has been absent for the past three months on a special mission to the Company's property in New South Wales, returned to the colony this morning by the E. & A. Co.'s steamer *Memmut*. Mr. Stevens' report will doubtless be placed before the shareholders at an early date; but we understand that the want of success which has so far attended working operations is chiefly attributable to inefficient management at the mines. An interesting account of a recent visit to the Balmoral Mines by "Our Special Commissioner" will appear in our next issue.

MR. J. C. HENDRY, of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., once a well-known Hongkong cricketer, has lately been earning undying fame for himself as honorary secretary of the Port Darwin Dramatic Society. At the best of times the capital of the Northern Territory is a dead-end place, and but for the efforts of Mr. Hendry, and other kindred spirits in the dramatic and musical departments, the probability is that long ere this the community of Darwin would have become modern Rip Van Winkle. The Dramatic Society's amusing concerts have proved a universal boon, and a dramatic and musical entertainment projected for next month to wipe off the debt of the Roman Catholic Church in the town, promises to be the event of the season. Mr. "Jack" Hendry's numerous friends in the Far East, and their names is legion, will be glad to know that the once deadly trader of the Hongkong C. C., now a distinguished member of the ancient order of Benedicts, albeit a tendency to put on flesh, is still as fit as the proverbial fiddle, and as effective as ever "between the ticks."

THE returns of the number of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ended Aug. 23rd, are:—Europeans 170, Chinese 2,036; total 2,206.

POPE Hennessy's particular friend (7), St. F. Borne, succeeds Sir William Robinson, the elect of Hongkong, in the governorship of Trinidad.

## AT THE MEETING.

Old Vite Seal—He vos vien von shareholder mid de Decks.  
Poesnatcher—Nien! Vos henot? Vell shov her spikken, he vosh on mine delicate groust.

A PRIVATE of the A. & S. Highlanders was found last night in the "Rose, Shamrock and Thistle" Hotel by the Military police; the man was in a pitiable condition and died this morning from contusion of the brain. Further particulars are withheld until after a court of enquiry has been instituted.

Mrs. NEWMA—"Oh, I wish you could see Mrs. Winkler's baby. It's perfectly lovely. Such a delicate, sweet little creature as it is! It's a perfect little cherub, with the loveliest eyes, the sweetest little mouth, the cunningest little nose, and eyes of heavenly blue. It looks as if it had just dropped from heaven and every tiny feature had been fashioned by the angels."  
Mrs. Newma—"Is it as nice as our baby?"  
Mrs. Newma—"Mercy! No, not half!"

ON Saturday evening all the world and his wife, to say nothing of the sisters, the cousins and the aunts thereof, assembled in the Botanical Gardens to listen to the music which was being discoursed by the Band and Pipers, of the gallant 91st. That we hear all too little of this Band has been acknowledged since their advent amongst us, and if they, like other civilized regiments, would stay in the Gardens on Sunday evenings, the regiment would advance considerably in popularity.

BARON DE LISSA, the popular pioneer of British North Borneo, arrived from Sydney this morning by the steamship *Memmut*. The Baron has entirely recovered from the serious accident he sustained through his horse falling and rolling over him in Sandakan last September, and is again quite in his old form. And De Lissa's best form is something out of the ordinary. He intends to proceed to Borneo by an early steamer, having large orders for timber to complete for Sydney and Melbourne. The Sandakan community will be unanimous in giving a hearty welcome to their genial and enterprising "senior citizen."

MR. R. FRASER-SMITH, editor and proprietor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, returned from a trip to the Colonies by the steamship *Memmut* this morning, accompanied by Mr. J. Francis Webber, the well-known local solicitor. Mr. Webber, who for some time past has held an appointment in the Melbourne Municipality, specially revisits the Far East in order to give evidence in the important libel suit *Hickinbotham v. Fraser-Smith*, now pending, and in which it is confidently expected that the vindication of the hapless defendants in the infamous Conspiracy Case of November last will be placed beyond all doubt. Other important legal proceedings in connection with that disgraceful satire on Hongkong justice are under way, full particulars of which will be duly chronicled.

THERE is a story of Fred Archer which may not be generally known. It seems that when that famous jockey was in the States, he was for a time, the evening before the race he received a parcel, which, on opening, he found to contain two sovereigns, and a slip of paper on which was written a promise to send him a second hundred if he did not win on the morrow. Archer, who was to ride the favourite, at once went to Lord Falmouth, the owner of the horse, told him what had happened, and asked that another jockey might be put in his stead. But Lord Falmouth would not hear of this, and told Archer to keep the money. The latter accordingly rode the favourite race, and, though he thought he had the race in hand, he was beaten on the post by a short head. On his return to his quarters he found a parcel awaiting him containing the second £100, and a letter thanking him for having kept faith with his anonymous correspondent, but asking him "not to draw it quite so fine another time." [This yarn, interesting as it may be, happens to be a first-class lie. And of such is the kingdom etc., etc.]

## HONGKONG &amp; WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

A meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at their offices, No. 14, Praya Central at 3 p.m. this afternoon. There were present—Messrs. E. L. Woodin (Chairman), Kelly, G. M. Bain, J. S. Van Buren, L. Poesnatcher, T. E. Davies, H. Hopkin, F. Foster, J. J. Kerwick, and D. Gillies (Secretary). The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been several days in your hands, and have no doubt you have carefully examined them, and with your kind permission we will consider them read. You will observe that the net profit for the half year just closed amounts to the respectable sum of \$232,320.48 and nearly approaches the exceptional earnings of the previous six months. The gross takings are the highest recorded since the formation of the Company 30 years ago. These satisfactory results enable your Directors to maintain the dividend declared last February besides writing off a considerable sum for depreciation, and to reduce the loan and over-drafts from \$802,117 to \$381,467. The new buildings for the European Staff at Aberdeen, referred to in the last report, was completed and occupied early this year and the health of the men has much improved by the change of quarters. During the dry season it was found that the boilers both at Kowloon and Cosmopolitan Docks sustained considerably injury from the water in the wells becoming brackish. A trial of a surface condenser fitted to the factory at the Cosmopolitan Dock proved so successful in arresting corrosion that it has been decided to adopt the same arrangement at the Kowloon Establishment and great economy in fuel and much expense for repairs will be effected by these improvements at the small outlay of \$4,000. At the last meeting it was recommended that a bonus should be given to the Foreign Employees of the Company and it will be seen that a sum of \$10,000 has been set aside for this purpose. As an occasional retrospective view of the working of the company is both useful and instructive especially to those shareholders who have not been able to follow the progress of the company, I now place before you a few figures for the last 12 years, and I am sure you will be impressed with the gratifying results attained in such a short time, and we have been able to reach figures of such magnitude by the immense resources at our command enabling us to undertake work almost of any description. For the period I have mentioned viz: from January 1885 to June 1891 the total gross earnings amount to \$9,591,106.

Of which there has been paid  
Dividends.....\$ 1,076,062  
Interest.....308,444  
Labour and material.....7,187,501  
Written off for depreciation.....541,059  
Office expenses.....211,495  
Sundries.....214,430

Balance carried to next year.....\$1,665  
\$ 9,591,106

and in addition disbursed on account New Dock.....\$505,675  
Disbursed on account Plant Building &c.....377,195  
882,870

\$10,473,976

and Loans and over-drafts reduced from \$1,125,000 the highest point reached to \$581,467. It will be seen that during the above 6 years just concluded returned to shareholders about two-thirds of the capital. Gentlemen, so much for the past and I leave you to form your own opinion regarding the probable financial position of the company in two or three years time. Although at the moment we have not quite so much work on hand as we could wish, I have no doubt that at the close of the current half year our return will be quite up to the average.

Mr. Fraser-Smith remarked that every shareholder of the company must feel gratified at the exceedingly favorable report which had just been read by the Chairman. He (the speaker) had only this morning returned from a trip to Australia, and in consequence was not in a position to deal critically with the report of the Directors; but from casual observations he thought that the shareholders had every reason to congratulate themselves on the general management of the Company, which had produced such substantial net earnings. The present results vindicated the policy which for the past ten years he (Mr. Fraser-Smith) had advocated, both in person and through the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, and which had undoubtedly consolidated the position of the Dock Company. The policy of writing off had been an unequalled success. The speaker had no opportunity of going into the published accounts, but on principle and as a matter of consistency he considered it a duty to call attention to the concession of \$10,000 which the Directors had set aside for the foreign staff. For a great many years he had taken a warm interest in the affairs of the Dock Company; and as the employees had been paid the assumed full value of their services in bad times, when the shareholders suffered, he was at a loss to understand why their remuneration should be increased when fortune for a time smiled the other way. Would they refund their hard-earned wages if business were unremunerative? And further the vote of \$10,000 for contributing shareholders was simply a fraud by the Directors on the shareholders. Fifteen years ago there was an incentive, in the shape of three or four oppositions, to specially induce patronage to the Dock Company, but now that no opposition existed, the vote of \$10,000 was merely an extra vote to the Directors. There was some provision in the Articles of Association, dealing with this Contributing Shareholders' question, which had to be overcome, and he would recommend the Board—who, of course, were all gentlemen and far beyond the petty remuneration attached to their position—, to have it struck out before next meeting.

Mr. Poesnatcher—"We put in this \$10,000 bonus for the staff because it was voted at last meeting."

Mr. Fraser-Smith—"It could not possibly have been voted at the last meeting. What we are considering now is the Directors' report for the past half year. I believe that at the last meeting Mr. Bellios said something about a bonus for European employees but the *ipse dixit* of Mr. Bellios, who does not happen to be present to-day, is not enough for me. The labourer is always worthy of his hire. If the Company's employees are worth so much in good times, I really cannot see why they should have special privileges when times are bad for the shareholders. I advocate liberal remuneration for our employees at all times; and if exceptional services be required let them be adequately paid for."

Mr. Hopkin—"I see, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Fraser-Smith's name is not on the list of shareholders."

Mr. Fraser-Smith—"No, I am appearing as attorney for the Cerebral Administration, although a large shareholder in the Dock Company."

Mr. Hopkin—"As an attorney, can Mr. Fraser-Smith speak?"

Mr. Fraser-Smith—"Oh yes! this question has been settled before. I am, as a matter of fact, one of the largest shareholders in the Dock Company; that I have not registered the shares is my own business."

Mr. Gillies said he was sorry that the question of the \$10,000 bonus to the foreign employees had been mentioned by Mr. Fraser-Smith, and he was not sure whether, although the amount had been included in the Co.'s accounts, whether he could accept it. No doubt, Mr. Fraser-Smith knew a great deal about the Dock Company's business and prospects, and he (the speaker) could only say that, in every possible direction, the servants of the shareholders would do their best for their employers.

Mr. Fraser-Smith explained that, far from saying anything to injure the Company's employees, his object was to place them on a recognized basis. They were entitled to the full value of their services, and such services should be paid liberally; but he objected to the principle of this bonus, which appeared to have been granted on the *ipse dixit* of Mr. Bellios, who was either something or nothing, and he hoped the Directors would take note of what he had said. He exceedingly regretted that Mr. Gillies, to whose indomitable energy the success of the Dock Company was principally due, should have so misconstrued his remarks.

On the proposal of Mr. E. L. Woodin, seconded by Mr. Fraser-Smith, the Report and Statement of Accounts were adopted *unanimously*.

The Chairman stated that the dividend warrants would be circulated to-morrow, and the business terminated.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

## "THEM GOSPEL GRINDERS AGAIN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."  
SIR,—I don't quite agree with your correspondent, who calls missionaries "grinders." They are, simply, humbugs. As old Barnum said, "the public love to be humbugged and the churches at home are willing to pay well for fairy stories from the East." Here is one of the best of them—A missionary in this place, who had not had any success, sent upon an original idea and invited all the Chinese in his district to "free lunch." When the average Mongolian read the placards, which promised free chow, free beer, free baccy, free gin, and free music, he wouldn't at first believe his eyes; but when he was convinced that there was a free collation of some sort, he crowded the missionary's yamen and even packed the streets outside. The missionary, delighted with results, thus transmitted the fact to the people at home—"Glory to God! 15,000 heathens throw down their idols and embrace the Cross of Christ! Hallelujah! Send me more money!" And the money came and has been coming ever since. How many converts were made by the free chow and free booze I know not. The congregation was no larger the day after the miracle than it was the day before. It is not much larger to-day, and consists, as usual, of the coolies of the missionaries and Europeans, with a handful of intelligent Chinese, who want to learn English. The missionary who has it

in charge, is a nice man and earns his salary, but he always strikes me as a humbug, since his miraculous conversion of the 15,000 heathen.

## A GOOD PRESBYTERIAN.

Tamsui, 20th August, 1891.

## "HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."  
SIR,—Allow me to make a few remarks on the contents of a letter published in your issue of the 15th instant above the initials, "C. D." I do not think the missionary profession, or at least the majority of the profession, will be proud of "C. D.'s" contemptuous letter. There is not the slightest doubt but what a few foreigners in China do set the natives a bad example; but that every one does so, and that *every* single European and American keeps a concubine, mistress or slave, is a deliberate falsehood, and is clear and convincing proof that the experience of "C. D." in Chinese Treaty ports is most limited. There are plenty of single men who lead equally as God-fearing and pure a life as he does himself, and I think better; simply because one or two persons abuse the missionary fraternity, as he thinks, in the Northern papers, he immediately launches out in a torrent of insult and abuse against all foreigners.

No one for a moment wishes to deprive the missionaries of the means of honest life; but foreigners who have been years in China cannot help expressing themselves in the way "C. D." complains of, and which they would not do were it not for the missionary people themselves, who go home and stand up in assemblies and make false statements of how badly they have to live, what poor food they are obliged to exist on, &c., &c., and wind up by asking for the usual subscription.

People at home, who never go abroad, do not know, that when they are thinking of half-starved missionaries, wandering about and living in mud hovels, many are in reality enjoying the best things of this life, living in first-class food, under punkas, lying back in long chairs, quaffing the cool drinks, or enjoying a trip up country in a well-furnished houseboat, while the mercantile community are earning a living by the sweat of their brow.

There are a lot of missionaries, and I have had the pleasure of meeting several, who work and toil at all hours and seasons, who honestly, earnestly and quietly do what they came out for. "C. D." claims that foreigners are the curse of missions in China; then why does the missionary poster the life of every foreigner for the slightest dollar, and a times out of 4 for some school where native legitimate and illegitimate children are being fed, clothed and educated, whose parents are in all probability having a good time in an opium den, or worse. The foreigners nearly always stumps up, although if he should happen to have children of his own, he is compelled to run into debt or deprive himself of the necessities of life to send them home to school, because the missionary body will not undertake to teach foreign children. A foreigner in China, unless he has a good income, has to think seriously of getting married and running the risk of throwing a family on the world, without means of subsistence; not so the missionary, who gets a premium annually for every child his family happens to be blessed with.

"C. D." probably never heard of the action of a few of his sort in connection with the Seamen's Club at Amoy.

That the Amoy missionaries refused to hold service in the Chapel on Sundays, because they did not come out to preach to foreigners, and that Divine service was held in the Amoy Masonic Hall without their assistance.

In Newchwang they refused to read the burial service over a young man who died suddenly, because he had never attended church, and yet they will tell one that the burial service is read more for the benefit of those standing round the grave, than for the body about to be committed to earth.

In a part of a thousand miles from Hongkong, a well known missionary, many years ago owned a considerable number of Chinese houses, some of which were known brothels, from which he collected rents, and at times personally. The gentleman has gone to his long home years ago, and it is to be hoped he is paying back the rent another way.

In conclusion, I would recommend to "C. D." that well known little volume entitled "The New Testament" for his earnest perusal.

## PRO BONO PUBLICO.

Swallow, 22nd August, 1891.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."  
SIR,—I have been deeply interested in the correspondence about our friends of the foreign missions, and desire to add, my mite to the discussion. I belong to Shanghai, where as you know we have had some trouble of late. The moment the rumor came that there was danger, the missionaries made a masterly retreat to our city. Before the trouble was over, they had drawn up claims for indemnity, and filed them in some instances with their consuls. Nearly all were outrageously extortionate, and a few were equivalent to highway robbery, pure and simple. Here is a sample, and one which was filed with General Jones of Chinching:

Fare of myself, wife, child,amah and servant, Chinkiang to Shanghai and return.....\$ 195  
(It is really \$85.)  
Six weeks board in Shanghai for ditto..... 750  
(They were stopping with another missionary.)  
Salary of myself and wife, for us to account to our Mission Society..... 600  
Incidentals and extras..... 75  
Value of property left behind, probably all destroyed..... 3,000  
Injury to property taken with us..... 500  
Damage done to our gospel work..... 600  
Shock to my wife's feelings..... 5,000  
(We are willing to leave this amount to your discretion.)  
Shock to my nerves (same as above)..... 5,000  
Damage to our amah..... 75

\$15,915

Please collect this as soon as possible. Is there a business man in Hongkong, who could equal much less surpass the above for mild extortion?

## A SHANGHAI MERCHANT.

August 21st, 1891.

[We know General Jones; and it is a privilege we highly appreciate if but he doesn't "go for" this particular missionary friend we shall know him no more.—E.D.]

## TIN V. BRASS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."  
SIR,—I am much obliged to you for your explanatory notes on tin-mining. When I heard the news about tin being found in Kowloon, I went over there and offered out samples of every kind of rock I could find. Only one contained metal and that was iron pyrites, or fool's gold. Will you please give me a short method of testing tin-ore.

## AN ACCOUNTANT.

Hongkong, August 24th, 1891.  
(Why, of course, we will. Fulverite a piece of the ore in a mortar until it is as fine as meal. Weigh out two ounces and mix with a ounces of crushed charcoal. Into a crucible holding not less than 16 ounces,

put first 2 ounces of charcoal, then the 4 ounces of mixture, and then 2 ounces of charcoal on top. Half cover the top with wet clay and place in a furnace (a hot kitchen stove or charcoal furnace used for ironing will do) and heat for 6 hours. The tin will be found as a bright bottom at the end of the operation at the bottom of the crucible.—E.D.]

## THE LATE LIEUT. HODGES, R.N.

PARTICULARS OF HIS DEATH.

By the arrival of the Australian mail we have received further particulars regarding the deplorable death of Mr. Phillip Jeyson Hodges, late second lieutenant of H. M. S. *Hyacinth*, reported by special cablegram from Sydney in our issue of July 21st. Mr. Hodges, it will be remembered, was tried by court-martial on board the *Victor Emanuel* in this colony on May 22nd, the alleged offence being that he was unfit for duty on the morning of the 8th May, the *Hyacinth* on the coming aboard in Kobe harbour. To outsiders the offence, under all circumstances, did not appear to be beyond the pale of forgiveness, and several gentlemen who are assumed to be competent authorities on naval discipline and who are cognisant of the whole facts of the case, do not scruple to say some harsh things of Lieut. Shortland, the officer on whose report the unfortunate delinquent was placed under arrest and brought to his ruin. However, be that as it may, the members of the court-martial took a very serious view of the matter, and as Mr. Hodges frankly admitted that he was the worse for liquor on the morning of the 8th, the sentence, in the most far-reaching of all Japanese towns, the sentence inflicted was death.

Service. In other words, a preliminary sentence, a family disgrace, and the way paved to a suicide's grave. Still, discipline must be maintained, and it is only fair to state that on two previous occasions Mr. Hodges had been found guilty of somewhat similar offences; in fact, a few days prior to his appointment to the *Hyacinth* on the China station, he was dismissed from the *Ringdove*

A meeting of shareholders in the Queensland Investment and Land Mortgage Company, Limited, was held yesterday. Mr. King, the chairman, alleged that the losses of the company were largely due to the management of the late Brisbane board of directors. The London directors advised that the law would hold the Brisbane directors liable. A resolution to reduce the capital was agreed to.

It is reported that, in his recent visit to London, the Emperor William discussed with Lord Salisbury the question of European disarmament. It was the Emperor's intention to suggest that Great Britain should propose a disarmament throughout Europe, but this idea has been abandoned by his Majesty, to whom the British Premier hinted that Germany ought to set the example.

Mr. W. H. Smith, First Lord of the Treasury, who has been suffering from serious illness, is improving.

There is a dispute in the Conservative party as to whether Mr. Goschen, Chancellor of the Exchequer, or Mr. A. J. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, should be appointed to succeed Mr. Smith as leader of the House of Commons, in the event of his retirement from that position. The claims of Mr. Balfour are preferred.

Dr. Bergmann, who was called upon by the Berlin Government to answer the charge made against him in regard to the inoculation of inoculable hospital patients with cancer lymph, has explained that the operation was in no way painful to the victims of the experiment.

Mr. John Pender, chairman of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, has announced that the increase in business consequent upon the reduction in the cable tariff is regarded as very satisfactory. The Company has been so far recovered that it is prepared to continue the experiment beyond the present year.

Germany has decided to encourage cotton-growing in her colonial possessions.

The English Bank of the River Plate, whose premises are situated at St. Swinburn's Lane, London, has suspended payment.

Mr. Ralston, the Postmaster-General, has established an express letter delivery throughout the United Kingdom.

The unaltered million of the late Victorian loan, recently floated on the London market, has been paid in by the successful tenderers.

The Czar and Czarina of Russia are on a visit to the Grand Duchy of Finland. Their Imperial Majesties have been pained at the cold reception accorded them by the populace, who were dissatisfied with the action of the Russian Government in meddling with the Constitution of the Grand Duchy.

It is announced that Prince George of Wales will proceed to India in November next on a semi-state visit.

Mr. Ribot, Minister for Foreign Affairs, replying to a question in the French Chamber of Deputies last night, denied that any systematic attempt had been made by the German Government to exclude French commercial travellers from German territory, as had been alleged by M. Laur, the Boulangist deputy. He protested against the culpable levity displayed in raising wantonly embarrassing international questions.

The Chamber refused to receive proofs offered by M. Laur, with the object of showing that his complaints were well grounded, and passed a vote of confidence in the Ministry by 309 to 207. Notwithstanding the vote of confidence, it is still felt that Mr. Ribot's position has been shaken.

The House of Lords agreed last night to a motion by the Marquis of Salisbury, declining to hear Lord Denham for the remainder of the present session, in consequence of the absurd speeches and motions which he has been habitually of late inflicting upon their lordships.

[Lord Denham has long been noted for the harmless absurdity of his speeches, one of which he embellished by a recital of the "Charge of the Light Brigade," to the amusement and amusement of the House.—Ed.]

The excitement among the Navajo Indians in the United States continues. They have threatened to massacre the white people in the neighborhood of their settlement unless the Sheriff releases their chief, who was recently arrested by the authorities.

It is announced that the chief, who was really arrested for horse-stealing, has been acquitted and released. The trouble with the Indians is now at an end.

News has reached London to the effect that serious complaints have been made in regard to the condition of the Expedition despatched to Mombasa, in South-East Africa, by the British South Africa Company. It is asserted that the Company neglected to provide proper equipment for the members of the Expedition. The country is said to be full of graves, and so deaths occurred at Lund alone. The settlement of Fort Victoria is fever-stricken, and 57 out of 60 police stationed there are on the sick list.

A vote of credit for 500,000 francs, proposed by M. de Freycinet, Minister for War, for the equipment of the Polytechnic School, has been rejected by the French Chamber of Deputies.

M. de Freycinet threatened to resign in consequence of the adverse vote, but his colleagues in the Cabinet dissuaded him from doing so.

The session of the Chamber of Deputies has closed.

The local authorities of Kanan, Eastern Russia, has applied to the Russian Government for 5,000,000 roubles to feed the starving peasants. They further appeal for delay in the payment of taxes, and urge the closing of the liquor shops for one year.

It is stated that it is the intention of the Government to ask the House of Commons to sanction the carrying out of preliminary surveys with a view to the construction of a railway from Mombasa, on the east coast of Africa, to the shores of Lake Victoria Nyanza.

The Marquis of Salisbury, questioned in the House of Lords last night as to the accuracy of the report that the French had occupied the territory of Luang Prabang, in Siam, stated that there was no foundation for the report. The Premier's references to this matter were couched in language warning France against interfering with the autonomy of Siam.

MELBOURNE, July 20th.

A special meeting of the Marine Board to-day considered the report of the shipping inspectors regarding the stranding of the British India Co's steamer *Bancora*. The report stated that the loss was never used to verify the vessel's position, nor were any signals made for a pilot. The Chairman (Captain Pollard) suggested that there was no necessity to hold a preliminary inquiry, as the facts showed that the vessel was at least five and a half points out of her course. It was ultimately decided that the Captain of the *Bancora* be proceeded against. The date of hearing the charge will be fixed at the next ordinary meeting of the Board.

The work of discharging the cargo from the *Bancora* was proceeded with more actively to-day. The cargo landed to-day was all in a sound state.

LONDON, July 20th.

Advices received from Santiago report that President Balmaceda had ten men summarily shot for attempting to destroy the fleet at Valparaiso.

The master of the insurgent steamer *Itala*, which took on board contraband of war at San Diego, in Southern California, has given bail of 50,000 francs, and sails for San Francisco to effect repairs.

Colonel Stephens's army, which is crossing the Cordillera with the object of compelling President Balmaceda's forces, is unable to either advance or retreat owing to the mountain passes being blocked with snow. The troops are suffering greatly from the intense cold. Their hands and feet are falling to pieces through being frost-bitten.

The immediate cause of the failure of the English Bank of the River Plate, whose premises are situated in St. Swinburn's Lane, was the refusal of the London and River Plate Bank to accept bills drawn by the Government of the Argentine Republic, which the English Bank of the River Plate might have then discounted. The liabilities amount to something under £5,000,000. The assets are £2,000,000 in excess of the liabilities, but they are chiefly in Argentine securities.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, Viceroy of India, is recovering from his illness and is expected to return to India in the near future.

The Earl of Rosebery will represent Australia on the International Temperance Committee, which is to report to the next Congressional Council.

Prior to closing for the session the French Chamber of Deputies passed the revised tariff by a large majority. The Senate will consider the tariff at the autumn session.

Mr. A. Law, secretary of the Shipping Federation, has given evidence before the committee of the Royal Labor Commission. He declared that the Federation is hostile to the marine unions, and in proof of his assertion, he mentioned that half the registered labourers of the Federation were unionists.

The Liberals intend to oppose the vote to cover the cost of preliminary surveys for a line of railway from Mombasa, in East Africa, to the eastern shores of Lake Victoria Nyanza.

At the meeting of governors of the Imperial Institute, held to-day at Marlborough House, the President, Mr. W. A. Wood, warmly thanked the organizing committee for its energetic services. In the report submitted to the governors he stated that New South Wales, South Australia, and New Zealand had not subscribed the amounts promised by those colonies to the funds of the Institute. The Prince of Wales asked Sir Saul Samuel what prospect there was of New South Wales subscribing. He replied that he was hopeful of the promise of Sir Patrick Jennings being redeemed.

A convention of members of the Irish National League is being held in Dublin, under the presidency of Mr. Parnell. The Convention has adopted a programme of a Radical character, including the reform of the land laws, the principle of universal suffrage, and the reinstatement of elected members.

President Balmaceda will retain the presidency until the rebellion is quelled. He has shot 50 officers suspected of being implicated with the insurgents. An attempt to poison the rebel leaders has failed.

The *Emeralda*, belonging to the insurgent party in Chile, has made an attack upon the French flag by firing twice at a French corvette at Coquimbo. An apology has been demanded.

At yesterday's sitting of the Convention it was decided that the programme should adhere to the principle of Home Rule for Ireland. Mr. Parnell nevertheless declared that he would support Mr. Balfour's Local Government scheme, and he would even support Mr. Healy as head of the anti-Parnellite Party to ensure a sufficiency of Irish votes in Parliament.

Two hundred and twenty troops of Colonel Stephens's army, which became blocked by snowdrifts in the passes of the Cordillera while marching to join President Balmaceda's forces, have succeeded in reaching Santiago. There are nearly 3,000 troops still snowbound in the mountain passes.

The contest which took place yesterday for the vacancy in the representation of Wisbech in the House of Commons, caused by the resignation of Captain Selwyn, who sat in the Conservative interest, resulted in the return of the Radical candidate, the Hon. H. R. Brand, son of Lord Hampden, formerly Speaker of the House of Commons, by a majority of 260 over Duncan, his Conservative opponent. At the last election Captain Selwyn won the seat with a majority of 1087 over the Gladstonian-Liberal candidate.

The British sovereign now stands at a premium of 20 per cent in Portugal.

A heavy purse has been offered by the Olympic Club of New Orleans for a match between Fitzsimmons and Hall, the Australian middle-weight pugilist.

Fire was discovered at the Abidin Palace, the residence of the Khedive, in Cairo, and much damage was done before it was extinguished. The principal portion of the palace, however, was saved.

The "Garter," vacant by the death of Earl Granville, has been conferred upon Earl Cadogan, Lord Privy Seal.

The difficulty with the Turkish authorities in connection with the abduction and forcible confinement of Miss Grenfield, a British subject, in Persia, has been solved by her surrender to the Persian authorities. The hostile Kurds are now dispersing.

The Earl of Onslow has forwarded a despatch to Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which he reviews the attitude of New Zealand, as regards the federation of the Australasian colonies. His lordship says that the opinion of the majority of the people is that New Zealand cannot join the federation, such a step being outside the realm of practical politics. He, however, thinks that the prospect of a consolidation of the national debts, and then a commonwealth loan, with a possible reduction of interest, would alone be sufficient to tempt New Zealand into the federation.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons last night, Lord George Hamilton, First Lord of the Admiralty, stated the gains in the service of the type of those on board the *Cordillera* would be replaced by guns of a later type except on vessels about to be relieved.

The Republican papers of Madrid protest against Spanish military intervention in the event of Portugal being disturbed during the present financial crisis.

The ship *Marquis*, 15 guns, 7750 tons, and the tug *Marquis*, 21 guns, 10,380 tons, which form part of the French fleet now blockading Russian waters, grounded while entering the harbor at Cronstadt.

The reception received by the fleet, which was to have partaken of a national character, was very tame, despite some show of popular enthusiasm.

Before the committee investigating the charges of corruption made against the Hon. Sir Hector Langford, the Canadian Minister of Public Works, a witness has testified to having paid the Minister \$50,000 on retainer for his services.

The Prince of Wales, the heir-apparent to the Italian throne, was entertained by the Prince of Wales yesterday, and together they visited the busiest parts of London.

A remarkable wheat steamer has arrived at Liverpool from America. She is shaped like a huge cigar, and carries 80,000 bushels of wheat being discharged in twelve hours. The cost of building and working the plant for discharging is said to be next to nothing.

The inquiry into the accident to the train which was precipitated over the Manchester Ship Canal, when 21 workmen were killed, has been concluded. The evidence showed that the cause was due to an error on the part of a man who was engaged as a pointman, and a rider was added to the verdict condemning the employment of boys in such responsible positions on the railways.

The *Times*, in commenting upon the election of Mr. Brand, a Radical, for Wisbech on Thursday, regards the defeat of the Conservative candidate as a serious matter, inasmuch as it indicates the dangerous restlessness of rural voters.

Cholera is raging at Mecca. In Arabia, the death number 200 daily.

Extensive precautions are being taken in Egypt to prevent the spread of the epidemic to that country.

The Pope has forgiven the sins of all the pilgrims visiting the Holy City of Treves, in the cathedral at Treves, Rhineland Prussia. Three thousand pilgrims are coming from America, and one hundred special trains have been laid on in various parts of the Continent to convey pilgrims to Treves.

[The "Holy City" is a relic preserved in the Cathedral at Treves, and said to be the identical garment worn by our Saviour at his crucifixion, and for which the soldiers cast lots. It was the gift of the Empress Helena, by whom it was discovered on her visit to Palestine in the fourth century, and has been exhibited to vast numbers of pilgrims at irregular intervals. The same claim, however, is made for several costly kept in other places. Treves is considered to be the oldest city in Germany, and contains many Roman remains. The cathedral which contains the Holy Coat was built at various times from the sixth century downwards.—Ed.]

Ten teams competed for the Lord Lindsay prize, including a team of Victorians. The Ayrshire Yeomanry won the first prize with a score of 131. The Victorians, who scored 105, rode the course in 26 seconds faster than any team. Their riding and jumping were enthusiastically applauded by the spectators.

Intelligence has been received from Zanzibar to the effect that the French exploring expedition led by M. Forment to Lake Toba, Central Africa, has met with disaster. In an encounter with natives 16 members of the expedition were killed and 30 wounded.

Lord Knutsford, Secretary for the Colonies, replying to the suggestion of Lord Bunsby that a Royal Commission should be appointed to inquire into the question of Imperial defence, said that the report of such a commission would be of little value unless supported by evidence authorized by colonial statements.

It is announced that the Rev. Hugh Keys Moore, chaplain and naval instructor of H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, on the China station, has been appointed chaplain of H.M.S. *Ceres*.

The British Government has agreed to the appointment of Chinese Consuls at English ports. Hitherto China has only a Consul at Singapore.

The wheat crop in the north-western districts of Canada is officially estimated to yield 21,000,000 bushels.

The continued drought in India increases the apprehension in regard to the wheat harvest. The fear increases that unless the weather speedily changes a famine must ensue.

The request of the ex-Queen, Natalie, to be allowed to visit her son, King Alexander of Serbia, while on a visit to the Cur in St. Petersburg, has been refused by the Cur.

A great row has been going on in the Russian nobility, published in St. Petersburg, in an article dealing with the European situation, the French with succumbing to the Germans in 1870 without a battle. Owing to their hatred of war a Russian alliance with such a people, the journal says, is impossible.

The census returns of France show that the population of the country on May 31 was 38,095,000. At the last census the population of France was 38,218,000, showing there has been a decrease of 113,995 during the past decade.

The statement cable from America that the boxing match between Hall and Fitzsimmons had taken place notwithstanding the interference of the authorities, and that Hall won in seven rounds, is now asserted to be untrue.

The French fleet, which is lying in Cronstadt harbor, has been visited by the Czar and much rejoicing.

"The Marseillaise" was frequently sung by the crews of the Russian warships to words of welcome.

Neither the Czar nor his officers drank to the toast of the Republic, but only to the toasts of France and the President.

A great anti-German demonstration which was contemplated was thwarted by the Czar.

The Queen, in very gracious terms, has invited the French fleet to visit Portsmouth on August 30. Her Majesty has herself undertaken to make an inspection of the fleet.

It is announced that 11,000 acres of land have been purchased at Essek, Hungary, with the view of establishing a colony of exiled Russian Jews.

Some internal machines, concealed among boxes of books, were sent to the official residence of M. Constans, Minister for the Interior, to M. Etienne, and to Dr. Thiele, head of the Colonial Medical Department. It is ascertained that the perpetrators of the diabolical attempts were colonial naval doctors, who had been compelled to retire.

The French Budget Committee has adopted M. Brisson's scheme for doubling the levy. The decision, however, is likely to be rescinded by the Chamber of Deputies before it will come as a mere recommendation.

July 28th.

The St. Petersburg Town Council has presented each French ship of the visiting squadron with a piece of silver plate, and each sailor with a medal.

The officers of the squadron will attend no less than 12 banquets given in honour of the visit of the French fleet. Admiral Gervais and his suite are to be banqueted at Moscow.

It is asserted that the Czar is displeased at the exuberance displayed by the Russian populace over the visit of the French.

Much-needed rains have fallen in the north-western provinces of India, and the impending famine has thereby been averted, but there will be a great scarcity in the crops. The Indian Government has granted a sum of 20,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the failure of the harvest.

The Chilean Government warship *Pinto*, which has been cruising off the coast of France, was purposely run on the rocks at Toulon by a disloyal crew.

Heavy floods have taken place in Germany in the country traversed by the river Rhine. Hundreds of peasants have been rendered homeless, and many are in a starving condition.

A Trades Union Congress is to be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne in September. The object of the congress is to urge that the Factory Act be applied to all trades employing women, and to extend the age limit for the employment of children.

The Society of Arts offers, in the event of the Colonies not appointing a commission at the Chicago Exhibition, to act for them, though they will not incur any expense.

The National Bank of New Zealand has confirmed the resolution previously passed to write down the capital, and to suspend the payment of a dividend.

Messrs. Hoare and Morgan, the retiring directors, were elected. The arrangements for reconstruction have been delayed for three months owing to legal formalities.

The death is announced of King Pomare, of Tahiti.

By the fall of a large chimney stack eight persons were killed, at the chemical works at Goshend, near Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The man Peter has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for defending Mr. Streeter, the well-known jeweller, by professing to be able to produce sovereigns from a base alloy.

Mr. H. J. Alderson, M.P. for Boston, has been suspended for a fortnight, for having addressed insulting letters to the Speaker of the House of Commons, who had altered the terms of certain questions put by Mr. Alderson to the Government.

The St. Mandé Railway Station was crowded with excursionists at the time of the collision, and hundreds witnessed the burning of the train to shreds. Twenty persons were burned to death. The catastrophe caused intense excitement in the neighbouring country, and at daybreak the railway station was surrounded by about 20,000 persons.

It is alleged that the disaster was due to the danger signals having been wilfully changed, and to the brakes being tampered with.

July 29th.

The driver of one of the trains which collided at St. Mandé, near Paris, has been arrested for disobeying the danger signals, which were against him. The understationmaster at Vincennes has also been arrested.

At the sitting of the Wesleyan Conference the Rev. Dr. Bowman Stephenson, the newly-elected president, condemned the placing of immoral men in high positions. The Rev. Mr. Hamilton, of Manchester, prayed for the conversion of the Prince of Wales.

A boxing match for £1,000 took place at the California Athletic Club San Francisco, yesterday, between George Dixon champion bantam-weight of the world, and Abe Willis, champion bantam-weight of Australia. Dixon knocked out Willis in five rounds.

The Dockers' Union has divided the balance remaining of the Australian strike fund, the Carpenters and Joiners receiving £400, the Dockers' £260, the remainder being handed over to other strikers.

The Treasury returns of the United States for the first half of the year have been published. These show that the commerce of America for the period named exceeded the previous year's operations by \$2,000,000.

The returns also show that the McKinley Tariff has failed to diminish imports. For the period between October 6, 1890, and June 30, 1891, during which the new tariff has been in operation, the total imports were valued at \$630,000,000, as compared with \$590,000,000 for the corresponding period of the previous year.

The funeral of the victims of the railway disaster at St. Mandé, on the line from Paris to Vincennes, took place to-day. It is estimated that over 25,000 persons were present. Scenes of the most heart-rending character occurred at the burial ground. The compensation claimed by the persons injured amounted to £200,000.

From Zanzibar it is reported that Emin Pasha is returning to Albert Nyanza, whence he was relieved by Mr. H. M. Stanley, in order to recover the large stock of ivory which he had accumulated, and which was left behind when he joined the Stanley expedition to the coast.

The Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at a banquet at the Marlborough House to-night, maintained that the prediction that Ireland required resolute Government had been fulfilled, as the English being at the back of Ireland had secured peace and well-being, and he was satisfied that the country still favored the Union with Great Britain.

Referring to the prospects of peace, Lord Salisbury said that the European situation never was so tranquil. Egypt and Bulgaria were developing with a rapidly which promised to solve the Eastern question. He knew of nothing in existing treaties which was calculated to menace the world's peace.

July 30th.

A rumor is in circulation in political circles in Vienna that Russia is trying to close the Danube (the entrance to the Black Sea from the Mediterranean) against the navies of foreign countries.

It is stated that the new Chilean cruiser *Presidente Errazuriz*, which put into Lisbon her way from France to Chili to recruit for her crew, has detained on board many English, Spanish, and Portuguese sailors. The French Consul at the port secured the release of some French sailors who had been taken on board.

The Chilean cruiser *Presidente Pinto*, which was run on the rocks when leaving Toulon by her crew, who are suspected to be in sympathy with the Chilean rebels, has been refloated.

An exciting incident has taken place in Lisbon harbor between a Chilean warship and the Portuguese authorities. A small boat's crew belonging to the cruiser *Presidente Errazuriz*, which has just been built in France for the Chilean Government, and was on her way to Chili, pursued a police boat at Lisbon, which had prevented men from embarking on board the Chilean vessel. A conflict was narrowly averted by the Chilean commander apologizing for the action of his men. All the Portuguese men-of-war in Lisbon harbor had cleared for action.

Several foreign consuls at Lisbon will probably take steps to prevent by force the *Presidente Errazuriz* from kidnapping their subjects in Portugal, and taking them on board as members of the crew.

An amendment moved in the Canadian House of Commons by Sir Richard Cartwright, a member of the Opposition, to a Government resolution favoring unrestricted reciprocity with the United States, was yesterday rejected by a majority of 20.

Official denial is given at Washington to the statement that President Harrison had intervened on behalf of the persecuted Russian Jews.

Mr. Carnot, President of the French Republic, has received a telegram from the Czar, in which his Majesty declares that the presence of the French fleet at Cronstadt is a testimony to the profound sympathy uniting France and Russia.

Mr. Carnot sent a telegram in reply, in which he says that he deeply trusts the cordiality of the welcome accorded to the French fleet by the Russian authorities and people.

At the banquet given by the Czar to the officers of the French squadron at the Peterhoff Palace, the Czar assured his guests that he never believed that Republican sailors and soldiers could have such a bearing as was displayed by the crews of the French fleet now lying in Russian waters.

A treaty of alliance exists in France that the object is to an eventual alliance with Russia have been removed.

The Russian officials, who were at first very ebullient over the visit of the French squadron, are now less enthusiastic.

Great excitement has been caused in St. Petersburg by the announcement that the police there have arrested 28 officers of the army on a charge of being implicated in a plot to assassinate the Czar. The police also arrested 40 nihilists for complicity in the conspiracy.

The Nihilists offered a most desperate resistance when being arrested, seven of them being killed in the struggle.

Miss Greenfield, the British subject who was alleged to have been abducted by Khurda, in Persian Khondok, has now assured the British Consul at Shiraz that she became a convert to Islamism, and instead of having been abducted, she simply followed a Khurda, in whom

as she declares, she was married. She refuses to return to her relatives in Persia.

The first steamer in connection with the new monthly service between Liverpool and Australia, started by Messrs. M'Alister and Co., will leave next month. The vessel will be the *Ruthenia*. The second steamer, the *Lucania*, will follow in September.

A number of Russian soldiers at midnight wantonly set fire to a Jewish hut at Riele. Fourteen Jews were burned to death, and 10 others were badly injured. The Jews in a spirit of revenge attacked the Russian soldiers, and killed several of their number.

Intelligence has been received to the effect that heavy floods have taken place in India, in the Bombay Presidency, where there had been a prolonged drought.

Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien, Messrs. P., having served the sentences of six months' imprisonment passed by the Tipperary Bench for breach of the Crimes Act have been released from prison.

An Italian loan for £2,000,000 has been taken up by the Irish syndicate.

Further Dergere, a Roman Catholic missionary in Dahomey, a kingdom of West Africa, asserts that 4,000 slaves were sacrificed at the tomb of the late king, the funeral obsequies lasting for 12 months.

Father Dergere also asserts that Portugal has ordered 10,000 slaves from the kingdom of Dahomey.

The inquiry into the charges of corruption preferred against high Government officials at Ottawa, Canada, has led to further exposures. It has transpired that gross corruption has existed in connection with the letting of contracts by the officers connected with the Public Works Department. The disclosures have created a great sensation throughout the Dominion.

The British Government had, Lord Salisbury said, been pressed to insist upon Chili submitting her revolutionary troubles to arbitration, and also to compel the Argentine Republic to introduce some system of financial reform. The Government were, however, indisposed to encroach upon the function of Providence, recognizing that their duty was to defend and assert British interests and not to meddle with other people's quarrels. The allies of Great Britain, all desired peace and goodwill.

The persistent alarm of stockholders to renounce having a depressing effect on the London money market. Rumors are also in circulation as to further impending financial troubles.

The *Times* declares, however, that these rumors are without foundation and that the financial situation is sounder at present than it has been for some time past.

Mr. Tom Mann, president of the Dockers' Union, has announced his intention of coming forward as a labor candidate at the next Parliamentary general election in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The death is announced of the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

His Holiness the Pope has conferred the dignity of hereditary Marquis upon Sir Patrick Jennings, of New South Wales.

July 21st.

A conference of influential Jews and various societies is to be held in London in the autumn, with the object of arranging for the establishment of Jewish agricultural colonies in the Argentine Republic, South Africa, and Australia.

Mr. Ralston, Postmaster-General, is taking measures to test the capabilities of the route through European Turkey by railway to the present route through Italy to Brindisi, for the conveyance of the overseas mails for India, Australia, and the Far East.

Richest of a serious character have taken place at Toulouse, in France, in connection with the strike of railway employes. It was found necessary to call out the military, who charged the rioters, and a large number of arrests were made.

It is reported that certain of the Powers are endeavoring to induce the Sultan of Turkey to depose Tewfik Pasha, the Khedive of Egypt, on the ground that he is seeking to loosen the tie between Egypt and Turkey through favouring Great Britain.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, August 1st.

At a mass meeting of the coal miners of Cardiff on Friday, composed of 15,000 men from the Female pits, it was unanimously agreed to strike for an increase of wages.

A fight for a heavy stake has been arranged between Paddy Slavin and Charlie Mitchell, but some disagreement has taken place about the date.

Great rejoicing took place yesterday at Dublin on the occasion of John Dillon and William O'Brien's release from gaol. The streets were crowded with enthusiastic Home Rulers, who cheered vociferously. The released gentlemen showed signs of severe suffering, and on the recommendation of the medical faculty have gone to Paris for rest and change of air.

SYDNEY, August 1st.

It is reported that Sir Henry Parkes intends retiring from public life. He has been in communication with a leading firm of London publishers, who offer him £10,000 to write a history of Australia for the past 50 years. It is understood that the negotiations are nearly completed. Apart from this, it is an open secret that Sir Henry Parkes has been for some time engaged in writing his autobiography, which is almost written up to date.

